

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 13 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 9, 15, 18, 21 and 22 as shown below. A marked-up version of the amended claims is presented herewith on the sheets labeled "Marked-up version of the amended claims."

9. (Amended) A method of heating at least a shell of a pressure transducer, the method comprising applying a first electrical signal to a first heater coupled to the shell and having a first electrical resistance, then applying a second electrical signal to a second heater coupled to the shell and having a second electrical resistance.

15. (Amended) A method of heating at least a shell of a pressure transducer, the method comprising:

(A) coupling a heater to the shell, the heater including a first heating element and a second heating element, the first heating element being characterized by a first electrical resistance, the second heating element being characterized by a second electrical resistance, the first electrical resistance being different than the second resistance;

(B) applying a first electrical signal to the first heating element during a first period of time; and

(C) applying a second electrical signal to the second heating element during a second period of time.

18. (Amended) A pressure transducer, including:

(A) a shell;

(B) a pressure sensor disposed in the shell;

(C) a heater attached to the shell, the heater including a first heating element and a second heating element, the first heating element being characterized by a first

electrical resistance, the second heating element being characterized by a second electrical resistance;

(D) one or more electronic components for applying an electrical signal to the heater, the heater generating heat in response to the electrical signal; and

(E) a switching element for selectively connecting any of: (1) the first and second heating elements in series with the electronic components; (2) the first heating element in series with the electronic components; (3) the second heating elements in series with the electronic components and (4) the first and second heating elements in parallel with the electronic components.

21. (Amended) A pressure transducer, including:

(A) a pressure sensor;

(B) a heated shell disposed around the sensor, the heated shell including a first heating element and a second heating element, the first heating element being characterized by a first electrical resistance, the second heating element being characterized by a second electrical resistance, the first electrical resistance being different than the second electrical resistance.

22. (Amended) A pressure transducer, including:

(A) a pressure sensor;

(B) a heated shell disposed around the sensor, the heated shell including a first heating element and a second heating element, the first heating element being characterized by a first electrical resistance, the second heating element being characterized by a second electrical resistance;

(C) one or more electronic components for applying an electrical signal to the heated shell, the heated shell generating heat in response to the electrical signal; and

(D) a switching element for selectively connecting any of: (1) the first and second heating elements in series with the electronic components; (2) the first heating

element in series with the electronic components; (3) the second heating elements in series with the electronic components and (4) the first and second heating elements in parallel with the electronic components.

Please add new claims 25-34 as follows:

25. (New) A transducer according to claim 1, further including an outer housing disposed around the shell.

26. (New) A transducer according to claim 25, wherein the heater is disposed between the outer metallic housing and the shell.

27. (New) A method according to claim 9, further including disposing the first and second heaters between the shell and an outer housing disposed around the shell.

28. (New) A method according to claim 15, further including disposing the first and second heating elements between the shell and an outer housing disposed around the shell.

29. (New) A transducer according to claim 18, further including an outer housing disposed around the shell.

30. (New) A transducer according to claim 29, wherein the heater is disposed between the outer metallic housing and the shell.

31. (New) A transducer according to claim 18, wherein the switching element is adapted for selectively connecting (1) the first and second heating elements in series with the electronic components, (2) the first heating element in series with the electronic components, (3) the second heating elements in series with the electronic components and (4) the first and second heating elements in parallel with the electronic components.

32. (New) A transducer according to claim 21, further including an outer housing disposed around the heated shell.

33. (New) A transducer according to claim 22, further including an outer housing disposed around the heated shell.

34. (New) A transducer according to claim 22, wherein the switching element is adapted for selectively connecting (1) the first and second heating elements in series with the electronic components, (2) the first heating element in series with the electronic components, (3) the second heating elements in series with the electronic components and (4) the first and second heating elements in parallel with the electronic components.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the title of the present application to "MULTI TEMPERATURE HEATER FOR USE WITH PRESSURE TRANSDUCERS," (see MPEP §606 for use of the term "Improved" in titles).

REMARKS

Telephone interviews with Examiner Ferguson

Applicants' representatives first wish to thank Examiner Marissa Ferguson for the courtesies extended in the telephone interviews on Dec. 3 and 4, 2002. Substantive issues relating to the application and the claims were not discussed in the interviews. However, it was explained by the Examiner that the Office Action sent on June 6, 2002 was not intended to be final, and is in fact not final, contrary to the indication on the Office Action Summary sheet. An Examiner Interview Summary confirming the non-final status of the June 6, 2002 Office Action, signed by Primary Examiner Max Noori, was sent to Applicants' representatives on Dec. 4, 2002 via facsimile, a copy of which is enclosed herewith.

Therefore, reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.